

Women continue to face tremendous obstacles across a number of spheres. For example, managerial and leadership positions continue to be male dominated, with women holding approximately 27 percent of managerial roles. In the business world, on average, women hold 19.7 percent of corporate board seats. Of that number, 6.7 percent are chairs, and only 5 percent are CEOs.

The importance of representation for women in leadership, politics, law enforcement, and across every sphere is evident. In politics alone, evidence shows that more women in public decision-making and public policy produce policies that benefit women, children, and families in general. Loans given to women's businesses exponentially support families and communities. We need women.

On this International Women's Day, I pay homage to the women who have come before me and the ones who stand beside me, and I send special prayers and strength on International Women's Day to the women of Ukraine, those fighting on the front line, those bringing support and comfort to children and elders and bringing them to safety, all of the women in Ukraine, especially today.

Let us all continue the great work to break the bias and advance the cause of women's rights in our communities, our government, and our world.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM WESTRICK UPON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate William Westrick of Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

William recently accepted a fully qualified appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

William is the son of Ryan and Carissa Westrick and the grandson of Bill Itle of Loretto, Joyce Itle of Ebensburg, Barbara Westrick of Bakerton, and Albert Westrick of Ebensburg. He has a younger sister, Sophie Westrick.

As a student at Central Cambria High School, William is active in the classroom and on the athletic field. He is a member of the National Honor Society, the 4-H Dairy Club, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Outside of school, William is a member of the Ebensburg Borough Junior Council and is employed by Vale Wood Farms.

I would like to thank William for his commitment to service and wish him the very best of luck as he embarks on this exciting new phase of life in Annapolis.

RECOGNIZING JOSHUA HERSHBINE UPON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Joshua Hershbine of Port Matilda, Pennsylvania.

Joshua recently accepted a fully qualified appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Joshua is a senior at State College Area High School, where he has excelled in and out of the classroom. He is a member of the student council as well as the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

He is an active member in his church community, spending time as an altar server, videographer, and supporting the Toys for Tots Christmas campaign.

Joshua is the son of Todd and Julie Hershbine and the grandson of the late Clarence and Dolores Farabaugh of Carrolltown and John and Kathleen Hershbine of Sanibel, Florida. He has two sisters, Brynn and Tara Hershbine.

Joshua has a clear passion for service and is a great example of what leadership looks like.

Best wishes in West Point, Joshua, and I look forward to seeing all that you achieve.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM RISHEL UPON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate William Rishel of Philipsburg, Pennsylvania.

William accepted a fully qualified appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

William is a graduate of Philipsburg-Osceola High School and currently a first-year student at Penn State University. He is the son of Jason and Ann Rishel.

In high school, William was a 4-year varsity athlete as well as a member of the National Honor Society and the Mountie Nation Service Organization. By the time he graduated high school, he had accumulated over 260 community hours of service.

As a first year at Penn State, William is an active member of the Air Force ROTC Detachment 720, and he also earned his private pilot license from University Park Airport.

I am confident William's experience in and out of the classroom will serve him well as he looks forward to this exciting new phase of life. I thank William for his commitment to our Nation and wish him the best of luck in Colorado Springs.

Mr. Speaker, it was an honor to nominate these young men. Their dedication to serving our country is inspirational. I look forward to seeing their successes in the years to come. I thank all the appointees for their commitment to our great Nation.

STANDING WITH UKRAINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STANTON). The Chair recognizes the

gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and stand with our brothers and sisters who are fighting for democracy, Mr. Speaker, for their country, for the world, in Ukraine.

As you may know, Mr. Speaker, New York City is a gorgeous mosaic of people from all over the world. In my district, the 13th Congressional District, I stand in solidarity with constituents that come from Ukraine, Ukrainian Americans and Ukrainians who are part of my district.

New York City stands in solidarity with them. People in the Brighton Beach area of Brooklyn, called Little Odessa today, we stand in solidarity with our Ukrainian brothers and sisters.

Vladimir Putin has waged a war—it is called Putin's war—of unprecedented proportions on the people of Ukraine, the likes of which we haven't seen since World War II, Mr. Speaker.

He continues to pound on civilian sites. As he waits to assault Kyiv, the world braces for what could be, really, an attack of unprecedented proportion as he prepares to slaughter the Ukrainian people and engage in, clearly, war crimes.

These unprovoked and unjustified attacks have caused tragic losses in human life and suffering. They are grandparents. They are moms with their little children being forced out of their homes out of fear of rocket attacks; fathers, uncles, cousins leaving their families behind to defend democracy in Ukraine and on behalf of the world.

This week, the Permanent Representative of Ukraine at the United Nations told the Security Council that hundreds of Ukrainian civilians have been killed, including children, Mr. Speaker.

Thousands of people are wounded as a result of Russia's military aggression as Vladimir Putin continues to engage, to perpetrate war crimes.

This is a war without remorse, Mr. Speaker. More than 1,000 civilians have died, and more than 1.5 million Ukrainians have been displaced, causing a humanitarian crisis.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Putin, Vladimir Putin, has engaged in war crimes. This isn't just Putin's war on Ukraine. It is a rebuke of Western values. It is a rebuke of democratic structures. It is a rebuke of the will of the people and basic human rights. It is a rebuke of law and order and peaceful coexisting.

He has doubled down, Mr. Speaker, and has premeditatedly, illegally, and immorally engaged in this war. But those on the front lines in Ukraine are relentless in their defense of democracy.

It is our duty, Mr. Speaker, to support Ukraine to the best of our ability, to defend its freedom and sovereignty from Putin's war.

President Zelensky's message is clear. He will defend Ukrainian sovereignty and statehood to the very end,